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corrections, of which one has an unsavory meaning and the other is too narrow an implication; the new title of "Conference of Social Work" is unfortunately somewhat awkward and unpleasing. In the annual volume several points are to be noted: (1) a new section on "Social Problems and the War" is given first position in the book; (2) the name of the section on feeble-mindedness is changed to the constructive title of "Mental Hygiene"; (3) the influence of the Conference is extended into the rural life of the nation and a new division on "Rural Social Problems" makes its appearance; (4) increasing interest is shown in social insurance which is defined as "true communal risk bearing"; and (5) democracy is stressed, e.g., Thomas Mott Osborne's strong plea that "the prisons be made safe for democracy."

The keynote of the volume is given in the address by President Frederic Almy and in the Conference sermon by the Rt. Rev. Charles D. Williams, who points out that "charity" has failed because it nourishes dependence and hypocrisy, and that "social service" has failed because it "ran full against the blank, impassable walls of our unjust industrial conditions" and our "intolerable method of distribution of wealth." The goal for social workers is set in Bishop Williams' statement that "every path we try leads out into that further field of warfare for economic equity and industrial justice."

E. S. BOGARDUS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Educational Sociology: A Digest and Syllabus. Part I, Introduction; Part II, "Applications to Curricula and Studies."

By DAVID SNEDDEN. New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1917. 2 vols. Pp. 38+70. \$1.35.

This is a detailed and carefully worked-out outline of a course in educational sociology. It should prove of value as a source of suggestions to teachers offering similar courses, or as a working manual for those who find it desirable to follow a ready-made scheme in their courses.

HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD

YALE UNIVERSITY

Recreation and the Church. By HERBERT WRIGHT GATES. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1917. Pp. 185. \$1.00.

Among the perplexities of an awakening church is the recreation problem. Shall the church incorporate play in her program? Has it sufficient significance for the moral and spiritual life to become part of

the church program? Is this human interest being adequately met by the commercial and voluntary agencies of the community? How can the facts be ascertained? If the church is to administer play, what principles should guide her and what typical examples should be followed?

The author of this book, himself a recognized expert and practical worker in this field, undertakes to answer these questions on the basis of a very respectable body of data and in accordance with the accepted theories of play. In addition to his graded play program there is a very valuable presentation of the successful administration of play by various churches. The book attempts no exhaustive treatment of the psychology of play, but for practical church use possesses unique merit.

ALLAN HOBEN

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Ourselfs: A Personal and Family History Register. By JOHN MADISON TAYLOR, A.B., M.D. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co., 1917. \$5.00.

To assemble important facts in the life-history of parents and children is the purpose of this register. When children marry, they are to continue the notebook begun by parents, to the end that long-continued and careful data on the physical, mental, and social development of generations may afford a solid basis for deducing the principles underlying race betterment. It is recommended that the volumes so compiled be sent to the Eugenics Record Office, Cold Spring Harbor.

Charts and blanks are provided for the following: ancestry; baby record, physical and mental; history of health, injuries, accidents, operations, etc.; physical measurements; clinical findings; anatomical diagrams; personal growth and crises, education, occupations, etc.; photographs and handwriting. The author's discussion of problems of bodily and mental hygiene, development of mind, influence of institutions, and proper education follows. A section treats the old question, How far can improved conditions of life overcome inherited tendencies? giving some emphasis to the potency of improved environment. A sweeping brush is used, and few readers will assent to all the judgments pronounced on a host of complicated questions.

The difficulty of securing and standardizing observations on life-history is recognized, and the co-operation of physicians is solicited. As to the value of the enterprise, several biologists who have examined this register and whose judgment was asked by the reviewer are unanimous. For physicians and students of unsettled problems of heredity the